

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending in the current application. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13 have been withdrawn.

The Examiner objects to claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being inadequately supported in the originally submitted specification.

The Examiner also objects to the drawings.

The Examiner mischaracterized the claim language to include “*exclusive*” damping characteristics. Contrary to this assertion, the claims do not require *absolute exclusive* compression/expansion characteristics, respectively. Such requirement may be a physical impossibility in view of friction in the real world. Instead, the claim language simply clarifies what is repeatedly stated and taught in the specification, that is, that the structure of the present invention is directed towards two different shock absorbers in a system, one for compression damping and one for expansion damping.

The claims describe what is clearly taught in the specification, in both the drawings and the description portion.

On page 5, lines 16-21, the specific structure is described for the compression damping shock absorber with compression side damping force generating element 101, and the separate expansion damping shock absorber with the expansion side damping force generating element 201. Drawing figures 1 and 4 show these distinct structures, respectively.

Applicant points out that the description is clear to express that, contrary to the Examiner’s view that each of the shock absorbers are arranged to have both compression and expansion capabilities, the present invention discloses two different structures, one for generating a compression damping force and another for generating an expansion damping force.

Element 101 of Fig. 1 is the compression side damping force element, and element 201 of Fig. 4 is the expansion side damping force element. The description and drawings are clear to point out that the structures are different and opposite in performance and structure, by

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showing and stating that the element 101 in the compression shock absorber is replaced by element 201 in the expansion shock absorber. The present claims merely reflect the differing structures set out in the description and drawings. That teaching is the central point of the application, and has been from the very beginning.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 have been shown to comply with the written description requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The claims are now in condition for allowance.

The amendments in the description satisfy the objections as to the drawings.

CONCLUSION

Applicant asserts that all of the objections have been obviated, and now respectfully requests withdrawal of those objections and an allowance of this application.

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

As the normal term for response expired on 2 January, Applicant hereby requests a one month extension in the term through 2 February 2007 and encloses a check in the amount of \$120 to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency of overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account Number 04-2219 referencing our Docket Number 13712.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 2 February 2007.


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